

11-09-05

Docket No. 7676/SYNX/JW
JFW/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Inventor(s): Michael R. Rice, Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance, Jeffrey C. Hudgens and Eric A. Englhardt
Title: SUBSTRATE CARRIER HANDLER THAT UNLOADS SUBSTRATE CARRIERS DIRECTLY FROM
A MOVING CONVEYOR
Serial No.: 10/650,480
Filed: August 28, 2003
Examiner: Marc, McDieunel
Group Art Unit: 3661

Transmitted herewith is:

- PTO Form 1449;
 Information Disclosure Statement with seventy-two cited references; and
 Return Postcard.

| FEE CALCULATION | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|--------|
| Fee Items | Claims Filed | Included With Basic Fee | Extra Claims | Fee Rate | Total |
| Total Claims | N/A | - 20 = | -0- | X \$50.00 | \$0.00 |
| Independent Claims | N/A | - 3 = | -0- | X \$200.00 | \$0.00 |
| Basic Filing Fee | | | | \$790.00 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL FEES | | | | | PAID |

- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 04-1696.
 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1696. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.
 Please address all future correspondence to:
Customer # 41161
Dugan & Dugan, PC
55 South Broadway
Tarrytown, NY 10591

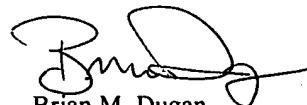
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Express Mail Receipt No. EV605115633US

Date of Deposit: November 8, 2005

Signature: Brian M. Dugan

Respectfully submitted,



Brian M. Dugan
Registration No. 41,720
(914) 332-9081



Express Mail Label No. EV605115633US

PATENTS
7676/SYNX/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Michael R. Rice, et al.
Serial No. : 10/650,480
Filed : August 28, 2003
For : SUBSTRATE CARRIER HANDLER THAT UNLOADS
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CONVEYOR
Group Art Unit : 3661
Customer No. : 41161
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following references:

- U.S. Patent No. 4,006,813, Rene Fluck
- U.S. Patent No. 4,166,527, Earl F. Beezer
- U.S. Patent No. 4,222,479, Dugan, et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,294,344, Johannes D. van Maanen
- U.S. Patent No. 4,450,950, James C. Foote, Jr.

11/10/2005 CNGUYEN 00000029 041696 10650480

01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

U.S. Patent No. 4,538,720, Jean-Louis Limousin
U.S. Patent No. 4,552,261, Raudat, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 4,584,944, Clarence A. Dehne
U.S. Patent No. 4,653,630, Anna Bravin
U.S. Patent No. 4,679,685, Kenji Inoko
U.S. Patent No. 4,702,365, Chong-II Pak
U.S. Patent No. 4,708,727, Cardenas-Franco, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 4,720,006, Harald Lenherr
U.S. Patent No. 4,750,605, Brems, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 4,852,717, Ross, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 4,901,843, Jeffrey A. Lashyro
U.S. Patent No. 4,921,092, Crawford, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,052,544, David L. Anderson
U.S. Patent No. 5,092,450, Schommartz, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,123,518, Ernest H. Pfaff
U.S. Patent No. 5,341,915, Cordia, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,560,471, Prochut, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,653,327, Buday, Jr., et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,664,254, Ohkura, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,782,338, Schuster, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,797,249, Thomas Patterson Hartness
U.S. Patent No. 5,829,574, Mario DelSanto
U.S. Patent No. 5,865,292, Aguilar, et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,887,701, Mario Spatafora

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U.S. Patent No. 4,650,264, Dean L. Dahnert

U.S. Patent No. 4,775,046, Gramarossa, et al.

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U.S. Patent No. 3,610,448, Ulrich Bornfleth

U.S. Patent No. 4,730,733, Kawamura, et al.

U.S. Patent No. 4,936,438, Glenn Waineo

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Foreign Art Reference No. JP 00062949 A (Japan)

Foreign Art Reference No. JP 00335799 A (Japan)

Foreign Art Reference No. WO 97/09256 A1 (PCT)

Foreign Art Reference No. WO 00/69724 A1 (PCT)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0717717 B1 (EPO)

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1978, Hydraulics and Pneumatics, Vol. 31, No. 12, pages 55-57.

Cheng, et al., "Adaptive Synchronization Control of a Robotic Manipulator Operating in an Intelligent Workcell", April 1990, IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics, Vol. 37, No. 2, pages 119-126.

Shih-Hung Li, et al. "An Ultrahigh Speed Assembly Robot System. Part I. Design", 1994, Proceedings 1994 Japan-U.S.A. Symposium on Flexible Automation - A Pacific Rim Conference, Vol. 2, pages 465-72.

Roberts, et al., "Feed Chute Geometry for Minimum Belt Wear", Sept. 1998, 6th International Conference on Bulk Materials Storage, Handling and Transportation, pages 153-159.

Saigo, et al., "Drive Control Systems for Processing Lines", 11/10/2000, Fuji Jiho (Fuji Electric Journal), Vol. 73, No. 11, pages 45-49, Japanese language (Abstract only).

Saigo, K., "Variable-speed Drive Systems for Industrial Plants", 11/10/2000, Fuji Jiho (Fuji Electric Journal), Vol. 73, No. 11, pages 10-14, Japanese language (Abstract only).

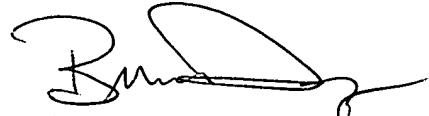
Park, et al., "Task Sequence Optimization for a Dual-Robot Assembly System using Evolutionary Algorithms", 2001, Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part B (Journal of Engineering Manufacture), Vol. 215, No. B6, pages 835-46.

Please charge deposit account No. 04-1696 in the amount of \$180.00 for consideration of this information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2).

These references are also listed on the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449).

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this
patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian M. Dugan, Esq.
Registration No. 41,720
Dugan & Dugan, PC
Attorneys for Applicants
(914) 332-9081

Dated: November 8, 2005
Tarrytown, New York

| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office | | | | Docket No.: 7676/SYNX/JW | Serial No.: 10/650,480 | | | |
|--|-------|--|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------|----|
| LIST OF RELEVANT ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | Applicants: Michael R. Rice, et al | | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date: August 28, 2003 | Group: 3652 | | | |
| PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE SEARCHED NOV 08 2005 MAILED | | | | | | | | |
| Patent Documents | | | | | | | | |
| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate | |
| | US-1 | 4,006,813 | 02/08/77 | Rene Fluck | | | | |
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| Foreign Patent Documents | | | | | | | | |
| Translation | | | | | | | | |
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| | F-1 | JP 02098157 A | 04/10/90 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | F-2 | JP 00062949 A | 02/29/00 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | F-3 | JP 00335799 A | 12/05/00 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
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| | F-5 | WO 00/69724 A1 | 11/23/00 | PCT | | | X | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | OT-1 | Virvalo, T.K., "Cylinder Speed Synchronization", Dec. 1978, Hydraulics and Pneumatics, Vol. 31, No. 12, pages 55-57. | | | | | | |
| | OT-2 | Cheng, et al., "Adaptive Synchronization Control of a Robotic Manipulator Operating in an Intelligent Workcell", April 1990, IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics, Vol. 37, No. 2, pages 119-126. | | | | | | |
| | OT-3 | Shih-Hung Li, et al. "An Ultrahigh Speed Assembly Robot System. Part I. Design", 1994, Proceedings 1994 Japan-U.S.A. Symposium on Flexible Automation - A Pacific Rim Conference, Vol. 2, pages 465-72. | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | Date Considered | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant. | | | | | | | | |

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|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office LIST OF RELEVANT ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | Docket No.: 7676/SYNX/JW | Serial No.: 10/650,480 |
| | | Applicants: Michael R. Rice, et al | |
| | | Filing Date: August 28, 2003 | Group: 3652 |
| | | | |

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | | | |
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| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
| | US-12 | 4,708,727 | 11/24/87 | Cardenas-Franco, et al. | | | |
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|--------------------------|------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | F-6 | EP 0717717 B1 | 07/07/99 | EPO | | | X | |
| | F-7 | EP 00735927 B1 | 11/03/99 | EPO | | | Abstract | |
| | F-8 | EP 00912426 B1 | 08/09/00 | EPO | | | Abstract | |
| | F-9 | EP 0277536 A1 | 08/10/88 | EPO | | | Abstract | |
| | F-10 | | | | | | | |

| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
|--|------|--|
| | OT-4 | Roberts, et al., "Feed Chute Geometry for Minimum Belt Wear", Sept. 1998, 6th International Conference on Bulk Materials Storage, Handling and Transportation, pages 153-159. |
| | OT-5 | Saigo, et al., "Drive Control Systems for Processing Lines", 11/10/2000, Fuji Jiho (Fuji Electric Journal), Vol. 73, No. 11, pages 45-49, Japanese language (Abstract only). |
| | OT-6 | Saigo, K., "Variable-speed Drive Systems for Industrial Plants", 11/10/2000, Fuji Jiho (Fuji Electric Journal), Vol. 73, No. 11, pages 10-14, Japanese language (Abstract only). |

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|---|-----------------|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
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| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office LIST OF RELEVANT ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | Docket No.: 7676/SYNX/JW | | Serial No.: 10/650,480 | | |
|--|-------|---|------------|---------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----|
| | | | | Applicants: Michael R. Rice, et al | | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date: August 28, 2003 | | Group: 3652 | | |
| | | | | U.S. Patent Documents | | | | |
| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate | |
| | US-23 | 5,653,327 | 08/05/97 | Buday, Jr., et al. | | | | |
| | US-24 | 5,664,254 | 09/02/97 | Ohkura, et al. | | | | |
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| | US-28 | 5,865,292 | 02/02/99 | Aguilar, et al. | | | | |
| | US-29 | 5,887,701 | 03/30/99 | Mario Spatafora | | | | |
| | US-30 | 6,209,710 | 04/03/01 | Mueller, et al. | | | | |
| | US-31 | 6,223,887 | 05/01/01 | Naoyuki Andou | | | | |
| | US-32 | 6,227,346 | 05/08/01 | Lecomte, et al. | | | | |
| | US-33 | 6,227,348 | 05/08/01 | Frei, et al. | | | | |
| Foreign Patent Documents Translation | | | | | | | | |
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | F-11 | | | | | | | |
| | F-12 | | | | | | | |
| | F-13 | | | | | | | |
| | F-14 | | | | | | | |
| | F-15 | | | | | | | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | OT-7 | Park, et al., "Task Sequence Optimization for a Dual-Robot Assembly System using Evolutionary Algorithms", 2001, Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part B (Journal of Engineering Manufacture), Vol. 215, No. B6, pages 835-46. | | | | | | |
| | OT-8 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-9 | | | | | | | |
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| | US-34 | 6,234,300 | 05/22/01 | De Vos, et al. | | | | |
| | US-35 | 5,110,249 | 05/05/92 | Arthur E. Norman | | | | |
| | US-36 | 6,036,426 | 03/14/00 | Gary Hillman | | | | |
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| | US-41 | 4,650,264 | 03/17/87 | Dean L. Dahnert | | | | |
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| | US-43 | 6,235,634 | 05/22/01 | Law, et al. | | | | |
| | US-44 | 2002/090282 | 07/11/02 | Robert Z. Bachrach | | | | |
| Foreign Patent Documents Translation | | | | | | | | |
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | F-16 | | | | | | | |
| | F-17 | | | | | | | |
| | F-18 | | | | | | | |
| | F-19 | | | | | | | |
| | F-20 | | | | | | | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | OT-10 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-11 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-12 | | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | Date Considered | | | | | | |
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| | | | | U.S. Patent Documents | | | | |
| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate | |
| | US-45 | 2003/010449 | 01/16/03 | Gramarossa, et al. | | | | |
| | US-46 | 1,639,758 | 08/08/27 | Jervis B. Webb | | | | |
| | US-47 | 1,906,036 | 04/08/33 | William E. Wunderlich | | | | |
| | US-48 | 2,153,071 | 04/08/39 | Leonard J. Bishop | | | | |
| | US-49 | 2,949,996 | 08/08/60 | Roger Tonelli | | | | |
| | US-50 | 3,058,604 | 10/08/62 | Harper, et al. | | | | |
| | US-51 | 3,131,801 | 05/08/64 | Augusto Marchetti | | | | |
| | US-52 | 3,184,032 | 05/08/65 | John Petter Ingemar Jonsson | | | | |
| | US-53 | 3,587,817 | 06/08/71 | Bornstein, et al. | | | | |
| | US-54 | 3,610,448 | 10/08/71 | Ulrich Bornfleth | | | | |
| | US-55 | 4,730,733 | 03/08/88 | Kawamura, et al. | | | | |
| Foreign Patent Documents Translation | | | | | | | | |
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | F-21 | | | | | | | |
| | F-22 | | | | | | | |
| | F-23 | | | | | | | |
| | F-24 | | | | | | | |
| | F-25 | | | | | | | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | OT-13 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-14 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-15 | | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | Date Considered | | | | | | |
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• Sheet 6 of 6 sheets

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| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | | | | |
| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate | |
| | US-56 | 4,936,438 | 06/08/90 | Glenn Waineo | | | | |
| | US-57 | | | | | | | |
| | US-58 | | | | | | | |
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| | US-61 | | | | | | | |
| | US-62 | | | | | | | |
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| | US-64 | | | | | | | |
| | US-65 | | | | | | | |
| | US-66 | | | | | | | |
| Foreign Patent Documents Translation | | | | | | | | |
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | F-26 | | | | | | | |
| | F-27 | | | | | | | |
| | F-28 | | | | | | | |
| | F-29 | | | | | | | |
| | F-30 | | | | | | | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | OT-16 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-17 | | | | | | | |
| | OT-18 | | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | Date Considered | | | | | | |
| <p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.</p> | | | | | | | | |